

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending August 4, 1996

Issue: 21-96

Phone: (402) 437-5541

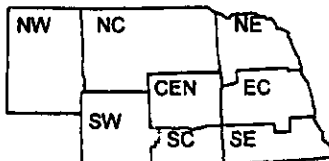
P.O. Box 81069

Released: 8/5/96 - 3:00 p.m.

Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources-UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged two to seven degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation was widespread across the State with amounts averaging from a half inch to an inch.

GENERAL

Wheat harvest neared completion, with only 5% of the crop still standing as of Sunday, according to Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Final wind up of wheat harvest was slowed by damp, cool conditions, with much of the State receiving an inch or more of precipitation during the week. Late Sunday, locally heavy amounts of rainfall from five to eight inches were received in parts of east central and northeast Nebraska. The below normal temperatures during the week slowed development of row crops but encouraged pasture growth. Grasshopper activity was noted in many areas of the State. Producer activities included irrigating crops, harvesting oats, cutting alfalfa and attending county fairs.

CROPS

Winter wheat harvest was nearing completion with 95% combined as of Sunday. This compares to 90% last year and the average of 92%. Wet field conditions continued to delay wheat harvest in the Panhandle, southwest, and central districts.

The all corn condition improved slightly last week and rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 51% good, and 32% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 85% good or excellent while dryland corn rated 79% good or excellent. Cool temperatures slowed crop progress as 90% had reached the silking stage or beyond compared to 57% last year and 81% average. As of

CROPS (Cont.)

Sunday, 7% of the crop had reached the dough stage, compared with 1% last year and 23% for the five-year average.

Soybean condition rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, and 17% excellent. Acreage blooming or beyond progressed to 91%, compared with 66% last year and 80% for the five-year average. Statewide, 38% of the acreage was setting pods, compared with 15% last year and the average of 37%.

Sorghum condition rated 1% poor, 17% fair, 59% good, and 23% excellent. Sorghum headed advanced to 19% last week, ahead of 7% last year but behind the 37% five-year average.

Oats harvest progressed to 82% complete as of Sunday. This compared with 77% last year and 78% for the five-year average.

Dry bean condition rated 4% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, and 12% excellent. As of Sunday, 89% had reached the blooming stage or beyond, ahead of last year's 55%. Percent setting pods advanced to 55% by the end of the week, compared with 19% last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 4% poor, 30% fair, 54% good, and 12% excellent. Second cutting activities were near completion last week, at 92% cut. This compared to 88% last year and 90% for the average. Third cutting had begun with 7% cut as of Sunday. Wild hay condition rated 4% poor, 21% fair, 59% good, and 16% excellent. Harvest remained active.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition was rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 34% fair, 50% good and 12% excellent. Pastures benefited from the general rainfalls and below normal temperatures of the past week. Cattle also got relief from last week's cool temperatures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 4, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Harvested	94	95	86	82	98	95	94	100	95	83	90	92
% Corn Silked	79	73	87	94	92	93	95	93	90	70	57	81
% Corn Dough Stage	9	3	2	4	9	9	13	7	7	1	1	23
% Soybean Blooming	n/a	90	88	88	95	98	87	97	91	66	66	80
% Soybean Setting Pods	n/a	19	29	60	36	39	31	47	38	13	15	37
% Sorghum Headed	0	15	19	12	10	12	21	24	19	2	7	37
% Oats Harvested	85	75	77	85	87	64	93	100	82	58	77	78
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	83	92	97	85	95	94	94	100	92	81	88	90
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	6	6	11	5	2	3	11	11	7	n/a	4	12
% Dry Beans Blooming	90	100	100	n/a	n/a	81	n/a	n/a	89	73	55	n/a
% Dry Beans Podded	57	45	15	n/a	n/a	56	n/a	n/a	55	31	19	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 2, 1996												
Days suitable	3.0	5.7	6.6	6.0	6.1	3.2	2.8	4.3	4.9	4.6	6.0	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	14	
(Percent) - Short	7	23	35	28	33	2	3	34	22	23	48	
- Adequate	86	74	63	70	62	81	53	66	69	71	38	
- Surplus	7	2	0	2	3	17	44	0	8	5	0	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	1	1	1	7	
(Percent) - Short	4	22	30	28	33	9	4	43	22	23	38	
- Adequate	76	76	52	71	62	90	77	56	70	73	55	
- Surplus	20	2	17	1	0	1	19	0	7	3	0	

n/a = not available

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

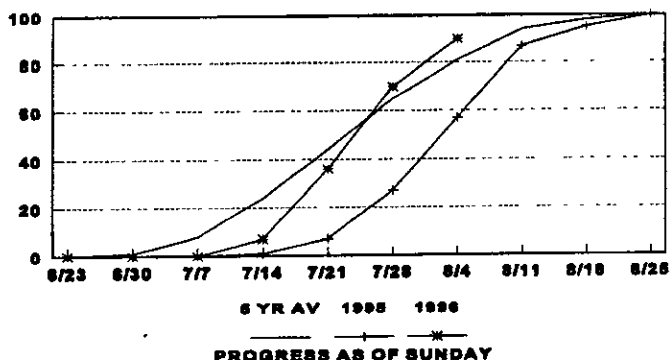
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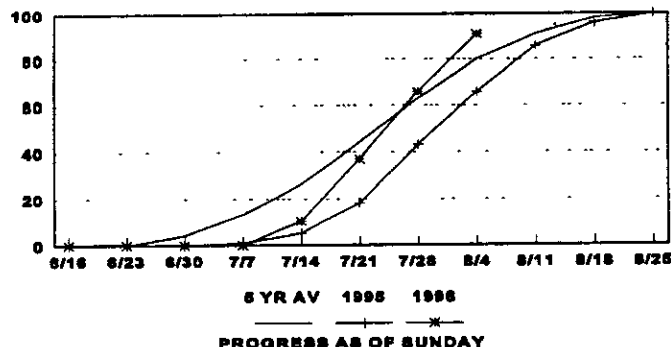
CORN SILKING

% SILKING

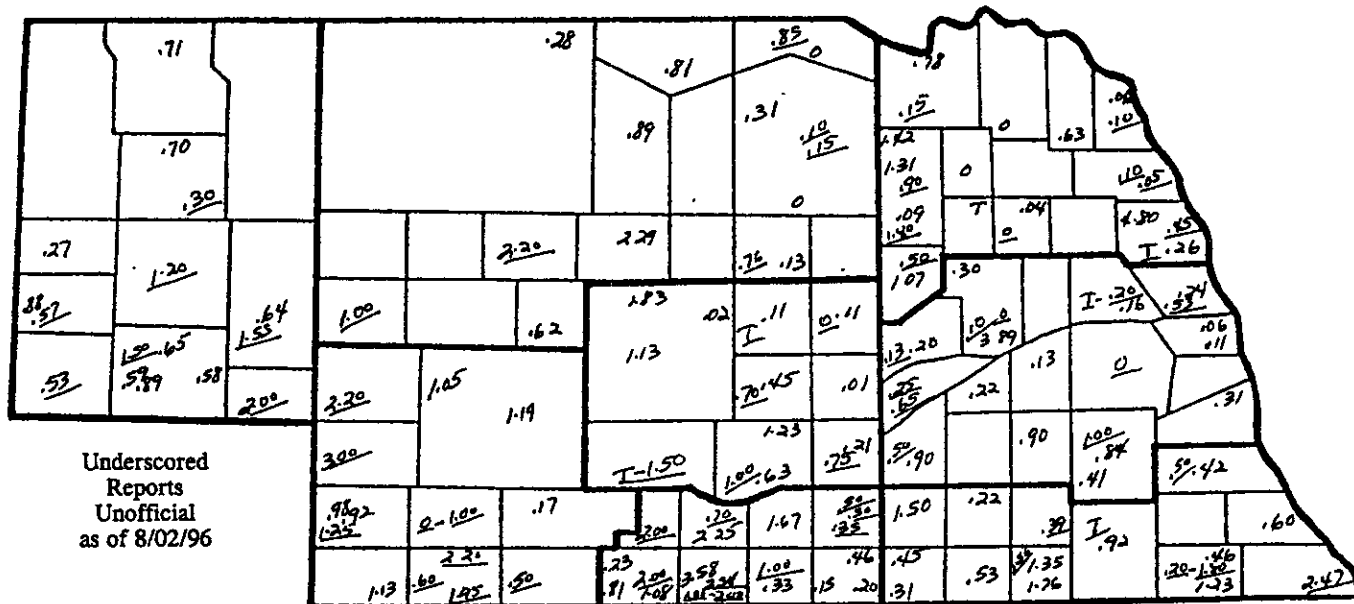


SOYBEANS BLOOMING

% BLOOMING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 3, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.66	.59	.80	.57	.62	.91	1.08	.81
Total since April 1	9.49	10.92	13.60	14.54	19.09	14.01	21.24	15.44
Normal since April 1	10.43	12.48	13.90	13.66	14.79	11.80	13.46	14.99
Total as % of normal	91%	88%	98%	106%	129%	119%	158%	103%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1996
GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 1996

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	101	51	75	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	97	52	72	-.27	1465	1634	1676
	Sidney	91	55	71	-.89	1390	1553	1621
NC	Valentine	100	51	73	-.28	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	1393	1557	1704
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	1415	1565	1833
NE	Norfolk	85	55	70	-5	T	---	---
	Sioux City	83	54	69	-7	.06	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	1476	1622	1942
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	1494	1648	1961
	West Point	---	---	---	---	1583	1739	1965
CEN	Grand Island	85	57	70	-7	.21	---	---
	Ord	87	53	70	---	.11	1528	1690
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1640	1805
EC	Lincoln	88	56	72	-6	.84	1754	1926
	Omaha	85	59	72	-5	.06	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1615	1771
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1687	1850
SW	Imperial	86	57	72	---	.92	---	---
	North Platte	86	54	70	-4	1.19	1534	1700
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1641	1824
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1671	1838
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1742	1907
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1765	1935
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1607	1758

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.